

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, and 18-23 are pending in the application. Claims 1-3, 6, and 18-23 have been amended and claims 7-17 have been cancelled. No new matter has been introduced by the amendment.

The Advisor Action of February 2, 2004 did not indicate whether the applicant's amendment filed August 26, 2003 had been entered in the application. Accordingly, the applicant has indicated the claims amended in the applicant's August 26, 2003 amendment as "currently amended." Further, the applicant hereby incorporates by reference the applicant's remarks in the amendment of August 26, 2003.

In response to the Examiner's suggestions during the Examiner Interview of April 7, 2004 with the applicant's former patent counsel, Frank DeRosa, the applicant has amended claims 1-3, 6, and 18.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "at least one pillar."

Claim 2 has been amended to recite that the first conductive material "comprises" a plurality of pillars.

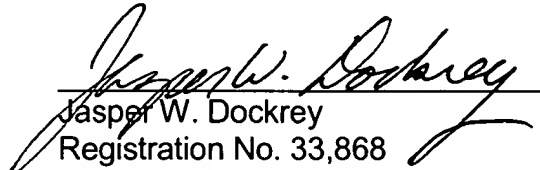
Claim 3 has been amended to recite that "a portion of the second conductive material is disposed between the plurality of pillars."

Claim 6 has been amended to recite that "a portion of the second conductive material is disposed between the first conductive material and the buried plate."

Claim 18 has been amended to recite that "the first conductive material contacts the buried plate along an entire bottom portion of the trench and along a lower portion of the sidewalls of the trench." Claim has been further been amended to recite that "the first conductive material comprises a plurality of pillars."

In view of the foregoing amendments, the applicant believes that the pending claims distinguish over the prior art and are in condition for allowance. Such allowance is now earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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